# CALIFORNIA PUBLIC EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM STATEMENT OF INVESTMENT POLICY

# FOR INTERNALLY MANAGED GLOBAL EQUITY INDEX FUNDS

May 17, 2010 June 13, 2011

This Policy is effective immediately upon adoption and supersedes all previous policies for Internally Managed Global Equity Index Funds.

## I. PURPOSE

The California Public Employees' Retirement System ("CalPERS") Total Fund Statement of Investment Policy, adopted by the CalPERS Investment Committee ("Committee"), sets forth CalPERS overarching investment purposes and objectives with respect to all its investment programs.

This document sets forth the investment policy ("Policy") for the Internally Managed Equity Index Funds - ("Funds" or "Portfolios"). Throughout this Policy, Funds and Portfolios are used interchangeably. The design of this Policy ensures that the investors, managers, consultants, and other participants selected by the CalPERS take prudent and careful action while managing the funds. Additionally, use of this Policy assures sufficient flexibility in managing investment risks and returns associated with the Funds.

## II. STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

Obtaining broad equity market exposure achieved by closely tracking the designated <u>benchmark</u> indices is the strategic objective of the Funds.

The Funds shall be managed to accomplish the following:

- A. Enhance CalPERS total return;
- B. Hedge against active (pre-retirement) liabilities; and,
- C. Provide diversification to CalPERS overall investment program.

## III. RESPONSIBILITIES

- A. CalPERS Investment Staff ("Staff") is responsible for the following:
  - All aspects of portfolio management including monitoring, analyzing, and evaluating performance relative to the appropriate benchmark.

- 2. Reporting internally to senior management concerning the implementation of this Policy. Staff reports will be prepared monthly to include, but not be limited to the following:
  - a. Current market value of the Portfolios:
  - b. Performance of the Portfolios versus the benchmarks as reported by the master custodian; and
  - c. <u>Performance attribution</u> analysis that accredits return to its causes.
- 3. Reporting to the Committee as needed about the performance of the Funds. The General Pension Consultant is responsible for reporting quarterly to the Committee, as described in section III.B.
- 4. Monitoring the implementation of, and compliance with, the Policy. Staff shall report concerns, problems, material changes, and all violations of Policies at the next Committee meeting, or sooner if deemed necessary. These reports shall include explanations of any violations and appropriate recommendations for corrective action.
- 5. Purchasing only securities that are outlined in this Policy.
- B. The General Pension Consultant ("Consultant") is responsible for:

Monitoring, evaluating, and reporting quarterly, to the Committee, on the performance of the Funds relative to the benchmarks and Policy. The Consultant is responsible for reporting any non-compliance issues in accordance with its responsibilities under its contract with CalPERS.

## IV. PERFORMANCE OBJECTIVE AND BENCHMARK

A. Performance Objective

Achieving the return for the broad equity market is the performance objectives of the Funds. To accomplish this objective, using statistical models to approximate the return of the market, rather than replicate, may be more cost effective.

Return deviations between the Portfolios and the designated benchmarks are expected to be random. The benchmark for the Internally Managed Global Equity Index Funds Policy is specified in the Benchmark Modification and Benchmark Details Policy. To account for the difference

in the methodology for calculating the returns of the benchmarks and the Portfolios, the resulting return deviation may require an adjustment. CalPERS shall set parameters in the statistical models it employs in such a manner that <u>tracking error</u> shall be within the following thresholds:

- 1. Domestic Equity Index: Forecasted tracking error shall be within  $\pm$  50 basis points; realized returns should fall no more than 50 basis points below the benchmark over any 12 month period.
- 2. Domestic Microcap Index: Forecasted tracking error shall be within  $\pm$  300 basis points; realized returns should fall no more than 300 basis points below the benchmark over any 12 month period.
- 3. International Equity Index: Forecasted tracking error shall be within  $\pm$  25 basis points; realized returns should fall no more than 25 basis points below the benchmark over any 12 month period.
- 4. International Small/Microcap Index: Forecasted tracking error shall be within ± 300 basis points; realized returns should fall no more than 300 basis points below the benchmark over any 12 month period.
- 5. Emerging Markets Equity Index: Forecasted tracking error shall be within ± 300 basis points; realized returns should fall no more than 300 basis points below the benchmark over any 12 month period.
- 6. Emerging Markets Small Cap Equity Index: Forecasted tracking error shall be within ± 500 basis points; realized returns should fall no more than 500 basis points below the benchmark over any 12 month period.
- 6.7. <u>Dynamic Completion Fund</u>: Forecasted tracking error shall be within  $\pm$  150 basis points; realized returns should fall no more than 150 basis points below the benchmark over any 12 month period.
- 7.8. Cash Equitization: Forecasted tracking error shall be within  $\pm$  300 basis points; realized returns should fall no more than 300 basis points below the benchmark over any 12 month period.

## V. INVESTMENT APPROACHES AND PARAMETERS

# A. Investment Approaches

The long-position (as opposed to futures) portfolios shall be managed in a structured fashion to achieve the stated performance objective. Structured investing can be achieved through replication or through an optimized,

Copyright © 2010 by CalPERS. Reproduction of any part of this manual is permissible if reproduction contains notice of CalPERS copyright as follows: "Copyright © 2010 by CalPERS".

sampled approach to generate an actual Portfolio with risk characteristics closely resembling the benchmark. The actual implementation used for each Portfolio will be dependent on the specific characteristics of the applicable benchmark. A benchmark with a broader number of constituents and greater exposure to small capitalization securities will typically not be replicated due to liquidity and trading cost considerations.

Where an <u>optimization</u> approach is employed, a statistical risk model is used to define and decompose the Portfolio's risk exposures versus those of the benchmark. <u>Fundamental risk models</u> measure stock returns associated with industry and other fundamental factors such as domicile, <u>price/earnings</u> (P/E), yield, and market capitalization. Such fundamental factors are referred to often as "common factors".

A common factor is an element of return that influences many securities and, hence, is a "common factor" in the returns on those securities. Based on the current Portfolio's exposure to country, industry, and common factors, the volatility of returns can be estimated. The information about volatility produced by a fundamental risk model can be used to evaluate Portfolio risk, decompose Portfolio risk according to common factor exposures, and evaluate how much of a Portfolio's return in a given period was due to each common factor exposure and how much was due to stock selection.

The cash equitization portfolio will hold an optimized basket of futures designed to achieve the desired equity exposure. The optimization will be run against the appropriate benchmark, with the resulting futures weights being approximately equal to those derived from the optimization process.

# B. Specific Risk Parameters

Specific risk parameters shall limit the return deviation of the Portfolio versus the benchmark. Use of a number of different models shall ensure that the risk parameters are within an acceptable tolerance level to achieve the performance objectives. Since CalPERS may add or eliminate models, the specific risk parameters for each model are detailed in the Procedures Manuals.

Implementation of this program shall comply at all times with CalPERS investment policies including, but not limited to, the following:

- 1. Emerging Equity Markets Principles;
- Statement of Investment Policy: Development of Derivatives Strategies; and

Proxy Voting Policies.

#### C. Restrictions

The Portfolio may not purchase the securities of primary tobacco companies as identified by the Investor Responsibility Research Center Tobacco Company List.

## D. Permissible Securities

- 1. Equity and associated securities of global publicly traded companies.
- 2. The Portfolio may hold securities not represented in the designated benchmark. Generally, these holdings in aggregate shall be limited to less than 3% of the Portfolio's total market value. Such holdings are justified by the following reasons:
  - a. Liquidity constraints or excessive transaction costs, such as those required to sell certain securities obtained from corporate actions or from past benchmark reconstitutions; or
  - b. Are held as a proxy for a benchmark asset that is illiquid or unavailable; or
  - c. Expectation of inclusion in the benchmark at the next reconstitution.
- 3. Derivatives, as detailed in Section VII.

## E. Corporate Actions

Corporate actions (e.g., <u>tender offers</u>, <u>mergers</u>, <u>Dutch-auctions</u>, or <u>spin-offs</u>) shall be handled on a case-by-case basis.

Companies which offer discount <u>Dividend Reinvestment Programs</u> (DRIP) and similar programs will be analyzed to determine if return enhancement can be added by participating in such programs.

# F. Rebalancing and Trading Activity

The rebalance decision for any Portfolio is primarily based upon analysis of risk and potential performance deviation from the benchmark. Portfolio rebalancing shall be performed as necessary to maintain the Portfolio's

Copyright © 2010 by CalPERS. Reproduction of any part of this manual is permissible if reproduction contains notice of CalPERS copyright as follows: "Copyright © 2010 by CalPERS".

risk characteristics in accordance with those of the benchmark. At a minimum, the Portfolio shall be reviewed monthly and at reconstitutions. The Portfolios will be analyzed to reduce <a href="mailto:systematic">systematic</a> and <a href="mailto:nonsystematic">nonsystematic</a> risk while minimizing transaction costs.

A variety of trading techniques and liquidity sources shall be utilized to obtain best execution of the approved trade list.

Transaction cost analysis shall be performed and evaluated on a quarterly basis for monitoring trading efficiency as compared to that of a like universe. An outside vendor may prepare this analysis.

# G. Strategy Monitoring

A monthly reporting package shall be prepared for each strategy by the Internal Equity staff assigned to manage the strategy. The reports to be included shall be those needed and appropriate to allow monitoring by more senior Internal Equity staff of the management process, risk acceptance and performance of each strategy. This reporting package may vary depending on the management process, benchmark and performance objective unique to each strategy and shall be described in the procedures manual.

The Consultant shall include strategy level information in their quarterly report to the Committee.

## VI. CALCULATIONS AND COMPUTATIONS

Investors, managers, consultants, and other participants selected by CalPERS shall make all calculations and computations on a market value basis as recorded by CalPERS Custodian.

# VII. DERIVATIVES AND LEVERAGE POLICY

# A. Strategies

The Fund may utilize financial <u>futures</u>, <u>equity swaps</u> and <u>options</u> in the Portfolio for the following purposes:

- 1. Permitting the investment of dividends received;
- Equitizing cash and dividends receivable;
- 3. Allowing adjustment of the Portfolio's risk characteristics in the most cost effective manner available;

4. Facilitating investment of cash flows related to contributions, withdrawals, or asset allocation compliance.

#### B. Justification

Justification for the above mentioned strategies includes the following:

- 1. Reducing transaction costs in comparison with the purchase of underlying securities;
- 2. Equitizing non-spendable cash exposures (e.g. dividend accruals) to get a highly correlated return on that component of the Portfolio;
- Providing the ability to alter risk characteristics versus the benchmark without disrupting the underlying Portfolio or unnecessarily increasing turnover; and
- 4. Obtaining matched returns between the benchmark and the Portfolio through investment in custom equity swaps and currency forwards.

## C. Restrictions

Restrictions on the above mentioned strategies include the following:

- 1. Writing uncovered calls is prohibited;
- 2. Leveraging is prohibited. The use of futures contracts as specified in this Policy will not constitute leverage;
- 3. With the exception of equity swaps and currency forwards, trading non-exchange traded derivatives is prohibited;
- 4. <u>Speculating</u> is prohibited;
- 5. Use of non-CFTC approved futures contracts is prohibited; and
- 6. Portfolio specific position limits will be established and monitored as detailed in the applicable procedures manual.

## D. Permissible Derivatives

Derivatives utilized in the index Portfolio may include, but are not limited to the following:

Copyright © 2010 by CalPERS. Reproduction of any part of this manual is permissible if reproduction contains notice of CalPERS copyright as follows: "Copyright © 2010 by CalPERS".

- 1. Index futures;
- 2. Style futures;
- 3. Index options;
- 4. Currency forwards;
- 5. Equity swaps;
- 6. Exchange Traded Funds (ETF); and
- 7. Closed End Funds.

# E. Futures Commission Merchants (FCM)

Futures Commission Merchants are selected with the following broad range of criteria:

- Low cost clearing and executing charges;
- 2. Securely capitalized firm;
- Clear account statements and efficient reconciliation;
- 4. Responsive personnel;
- 5. Discrete and efficient operation;
- 6. Personal interview; and
- Reference checks.

## VIII. GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Key words used in this policy are defined in CalPERS Master Glossary of Terms.

<u>Domestic Equity Index Fund – Internally Managed</u>

Adopted by the Investment Committee: September 16, 1996

Revised by the Policy Subcommittee:

Approved by the Investment Committee:

Revised by the Policy Subcommittee:

Approved by the Policy Subcommittee:

Approved by the Investment Committee:

May 13, 1999

August 16, 1999

December 8, 2000

March 19, 2001

Name Change to Equity Index Funds - Internally Managed

Revised by the Policy Subcommittee:

Approved by the Investment Committee:

April 18, 2005

Revised by the Policy Subcommittee:

April 18, 2005

June 10, 2005

Approved by the Investment Committee:

August 15, 2005

# Name Change to Internally Managed Global Equity Index Funds

(incorporates DCF policy)

Revised by the Policy Subcommittee:

Approved by the Investment Committee:

April 21, 2008

May 12, 2008

December 15, 2008

Approved by the Investment Committee:

April 21, 2008

April 21, 2008

April 21, 2008

April 21, 2008

December 15, 2008

Approved by the Investment Committee:

Approved by the Investment Committee:

Approved by the Investment Committee:

April 21, 2008

April 21, 2008

December 15, 2008

February 17, 2009

Administrative changes made due to Policy Review Project:

June 16, 2009

Admin changes due to adoption of Benchmark Policy: November 18, 2009

Revised by the Policy Subcommittee:

April 19, 2010
Approved by the Investment Committee:

May 17, 2010
Revised by the Policy Subcommittee:

June 13, 2011